

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-27. (Canceled)

28. (Currently Amended) A kit for the detection of a nucleic acid of a member of the Japanese encephalitis virus serogroup, comprising:

- a) a first oligonucleotide that comprises SEQ ID NO.:4 &;
- b) a second oligonucleotide that comprises SEQ ID NO:12 ~~hybridizes to a complement of SEQ ID NO.:9;~~ and
- c) a detectably-labeled third oligonucleotide that comprises SEQ ID NO:20 ~~hybridizes to a nucleic acid of SEQ ID NO.:16, or the complement thereof,~~
wherein the first and second oligonucleotide lengths are from 25 to 100 nucleotides, and the third oligonucleotide length is from 28 to 100 nucleotides.

29. (Currently amended) The kit of claim 57 ~~28~~, wherein the residue at position 24 of SEQ ID NO.:8 is N6-alkyl-deoxyadenosine.

30. (Original) The kit of claim 29, wherein the residue at position 24 of SEQ ID NO.:8 is N6-methyl-deoxyadenosine.

31. (Currently amended) The kit of claim 57 ~~28~~, wherein the residue at position 25 of SEQ ID NO.:8 is N6-alkyl-deoxyadenosine.

32. (Original) The kit of claim 31, wherein the residue at position 25 of SEQ ID NO.:8 is N6-tert-butylbenzyl-deoxyadenosine.

33. (Currently amended) The kit of claim 57 28, wherein the residue at position 24 of SEQ ID NO.:8 is N6-methyldeoxyadenosine and the residue at position 25 of SEQ ID NO.:8 is N6-tert-butyl-benzyldeoxyadenosine.

34. (Original) The kit of claim 28, wherein the second oligonucleotide comprises SEQ ID NO.:15.

35. (Original) The kit of claim 34, wherein the residue at position 23 of SEQ ID NO.:15 is N6-alkyl-deoxyadenosine.

36. (Original) The kit of claim 34, wherein the residue at position 23 of SEQ ID NO.:15 is N6-alkyl-deoxyadenosine.

37. (Original) The kit of claim 34, wherein the second oligonucleotide comprises SEQ ID NO.:74.

38. (Original) The kit of claim 37, wherein the residue at position 25 of SEQ ID NO.:74 is N6-alkyldeoxyadenosine.

39. (Original) The kit of claim 37, wherein the residue at position 25 of SEQ ID NO.:74 is N6-tertbutyl-benzyl-deoxyadenosine.

40. (Currently amended) The kit of claim 28, wherein the detectably-labeled third oligonucleotide comprises SEQ ID NO.:28, ~~or the complement thereof.~~

41. (Original) The kit of claim 40, wherein the detectably-labeled third oligonucleotide comprises a fluorescent moiety.

42. (Original) The kit of claim 41, wherein the detectably-labeled third oligonucleotide further comprises a quencher moiety.

43. (Original) The kit of claim 41, wherein the fluorescent moiety is selected from the group consisting of fluorescein-family dyes, polyhalofluorescein-family dyes, hexachlorofluorescein-family dyes, coumarin-family dyes, rhodamine-family dyes, cyanine-family dyes, oxazine-family dyes, thiazine-family dyes, squaraine family dyes, chelated lanthanide-family dyes, and BODIPY®-family dyes.

44. (Original) The kit of claim 41, wherein the fluorescent moiety is 6-carboxyfluorescein.

45. (Original) The kit of claim 42, wherein the quencher moiety is selected from the group consisting of fluorescein-family dyes, polyhalofluorescein-family dyes, hexachlorofluorescein-family dyes, coumarin-family dyes, rhodamine-family dyes, cyanine-family dyes, oxazine-family dyes, thiazine-family dyes, squaraine family dyes, chelated lanthanide-family dyes, BODIPY®-family dyes, and nonfluorescent quencher moieties.

46. (Original) The kit of claim 45, wherein the non-fluorescent quencher moiety is BHQ™-family dyes, Iowa Black™, or Dabcyl.

47. (Original) The kit of claim 42, wherein the quencher moiety is Cy5™.

48. (Original) The kit of claim 28, additionally comprising a thermostable DNA polymerase.

49. (Original) The kit of claim 48, wherein the thermostable DNA polymerase is selected from the group of Carboxydotherrnus hydrogenformans DNA polymerase, Thermosipho africanus DNA polymerase, Bacillus pallidus DNA polymerase, Thermus species Z05 DNA

polymerase, *Thermus aquaticus* DNA polymerase, *Thermus thermophilus* DNA polymerase, *Thermatoga maritima* DNA polymerase, *Thermatoga neapolitana* DNA polymerase, and *Thermus* sps17 DNA polymerase.

50. (Original) The kit of claim 28, additionally comprising instructions for detecting a nucleic acid of a member of the Japanese encephalitis virus serogroup.

51-56. (Canceled)

57. (New) The kit of claim 28, wherein the first oligonucleotide comprises SEQ ID NO:8.

58. (New) The kit of claim 28, wherein the third oligonucleotide comprises SEQ ID NO:28.

59. (New) The kit of claim 28, wherein:
the first oligonucleotide comprises SEQ ID NO:8;
the second oligonucleotide comprises SEQ ID NO:12; and
the third oligonucleotide comprises SEQ ID NO:28.

60. (New) The kit of claim 28, wherein:
the first oligonucleotide comprises SEQ ID NO:8;
the second oligonucleotide comprises SEQ ID NO:74; and
the third oligonucleotide comprises SEQ ID NO:28.